

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1 and 2 as follows:

02 1. (Amended) A hanger bar assembly for supporting an outlet box between spaced apart support elements comprising:

a first channel member being longitudinally slidably engagable with a second channel member forming a longitudinally adjustable support bar, said first and second channels each having a channel interior, and a portion of the first channel extends into the second channel interior and a portion of the second channel extends into the first channel interior when the first and second channels are engaged,

said first channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending first grooves and a plurality of longitudinally extending first rails, said second channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending second rails and a plurality of longitudinally extending second grooves, the first rails being slidably received in said second grooves and said second rails being slidably received in said first grooves such that rotational movement between said first and second channel members is resisted;

a clamping device for urging said first and second channel members into respective forced engagement thereby restricting movement between said first and second channel members; and

a securement device attached to said support bar for securing said support bar to the spaced support elements.

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cont. 2. (Amended) The hanger bar assembly as defined in Claim 1, wherein said first and said second channel members have a generally U-shaped cross-sectional profile, and said second channel member is inverted with respect to the first channel member.

Please add new Claims 21-23 as follows:

a3 -- 21. A hanger bar assembly for supporting an outlet box between spaced apart support elements comprising:

a first channel member being longitudinally slidably engagable with a second channel member forming a longitudinally adjustable support bar, said first channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending first grooves and a plurality of longitudinally extending first rails, said second channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending second rails and a plurality of longitudinally extending second grooves, the first rails being slidably received in said second grooves and said second rails being slidably received in said first grooves such that rotational movement between said first and second channel members is resisted;

a clamping device for urging said first and second channel members into respective forced engagement thereby restricting movement between said first and second channel members; and

a securement device attached to said support bar for securing said support bar to the spaced support elements the securement device including a pair of end plates secured to ends of said support bar, and said first and second channel members include apertures formed therein to receive fastening hardware to secure said end plates to said support bar.

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cont.
22. A hanger bar assembly for supporting an outlet box between spaced apart support elements comprising:

a first channel member being longitudinally slidably engagable with a second channel member forming a longitudinally adjustable support bar, said first channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending first grooves and a plurality of longitudinally extending first rails, said second channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending second rails and a plurality of longitudinally extending second grooves, the first rails being slidably received in said second grooves and said second rails being slidably received in said first grooves such that rotational movement between said first and second channel members is resisted;

said first and second channel members including a plurality of longitudinally extending shims extending therefrom;

a clamping device for urging said first and second channel members into respective forced engagement thereby restricting movement between said first and second channel members; and

a securement device attached to said support bar for securing said support bar to the spaced support elements.

23. A hanger bar assembly for supporting an outlet box between spaced apart support elements comprising:

a first channel member being longitudinally slidably engagable with a second channel member forming a longitudinally adjustable support bar, said first channel and said second channel having the same cross-sectional profiles, said first channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending first grooves and a plurality of longitudinally extending first rails, said second channel member having a plurality of longitudinally extending second rails and a plurality of longitudinally extending second grooves, the first rails being slidably received in said second grooves and said second rails being slidably received in said first grooves such that rotational movement between said first and second channel members is resisted;

a clamping device for urging said first and second channel members into respective forced engagement thereby restricting movement between said first and second channel members; and

a securement device attached to said support bar for securing said support bar to the spaced support elements. --
